

SIKKIM



GOVERNMENT

GAZETTE

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**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
LAW & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK**

No. 11(656)L&PAD/2025/16

Dated: 09.07.2025

NOTIFICATION

The following Act passed by the Sikkim Legislative Assembly and having received the assent of the Governor on the 20th day of June, 2025 is hereby published for general information:-

**THE EDTECH SKILLS UNIVERSITY, SIKKIM ACT, 2023
(ACT NO. 15 OF 2023)**

**AN
ACT**

to establish and incorporate the EDTECH SKILLS UNIVERSITY, in the State of Sikkim on the principles of '*antyodaya to sarvodaya darshan*' for the revival of livelihood competencies on the basis of divine practices of '*atmabodh* and '*advaita vedanta*' which are capable of meeting the requirements of skilled manpower in India by way of supplementing necessary element of employability through skills integrated formal, non-formal and in-formal education and training in various areas of studies under the management and sponsorship of World Education Mission, a non-profitable wholly charitable trust registered with Government of National Capital Territory, New Delhi and to provide matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Sikkim in the Seventy-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows: -

CHAPTER – I

PRELIMINARY

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|-------------------------------------|----|-----|--|
| Short title and commencement | 1. | (1) | This Act may be called the EdTech Skills University Act, 2023. |
| | | (2) | It shall come into the force on such date of its publication in the Official Gazette. |
| Definitions | 2. | | In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires: - |
| | | (a) | “Academic Bank of Credit” means an academic service mechanism as a digital or virtual or online entity established by UGC to facilitate students for becoming its academic account holders, thereby paving the way for seamless student mobility between or within degree-granting higher educational institutions through a formal system of credit recognition, credit accumulation, credit transfer and credit redemption to promote distributed and flexible teaching learning; |
| | | (b) | “Academic Council”, “Board of Governors”, “Finance Committee” means the academic council, board of governors and finance committee of the University, respectively; |
| | | (c) | “AIU”, “BCI”, “NCTE”, “NMC”, “DCI”, “DEB”, “INC”, “PCI”, “RCI”, “VCI”, “CoA”, “NCH”, ‘NCIM’ means the Association of Indian Universities, Bar Council of India, National Council for Teacher Education, National Medical Commission, Dental Council of India, Distance Education Bureau, Indian Nursing Council, Pharmacy Council of India, Rehabilitation Council of India, Veterinary Council of India, Council of Architecture, National Commission for Homoeopathy and National Commission for Indian System of Medicine, respectively; |
| | | (d) | “Break in Studies” means continuing education mechanism for discontinued students for their re-entry into mainstream of education; |
| | | (e) | “CBCS” means Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) of the University, wherein the students have an opportunity to choose the course modules from the prescribed courses comprising core, elective or minor or skill-based courses to earn the credits of course at their own pace. CBCS allows students an easy mode of mobility to various educational institutions spread across the world along with the facility of transfer of credits earned by students through the technique of credit accumulation and credit transfer in accordance with the guidelines issued by the UGC; |
| | | (f) | “Certificate” means the award conferred by the University, attesting accomplishment for the prescribed set of activities such as performance, course, achievement, experience, conference or seminar, etc., by the grantee; |
| | | (g) | “CFSD” means Credit Framework for Skill Development, a system for recognizing skills and education as part of |

integrated learning system as prescribed by UGC to promote lateral and vertical mobility and to integrate skill and vocational development with mainstream general education;

- (h) "Chancellor", "Pro-Chancellor", "Vice-Chancellor", "Pro-Vice Chancellor", "Registrar", "Controller of Examination", "Finance Officer", "Dean of Faculty(s)", "Director(s)", "Principal(s)", "Head of the Department(s)" and "Chief Proctor" means Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Controller of Examination, Finance Officer, Dean of Faculty(s), Director(s), Principal(s), Head of the Department(s) and Chief Proctor of the University, respectively;
- (i) "Charter" means the grant of privilege to formally recognize the grantee's existing competencies or skills obtained formally or informally or non-formally, which includes academic, non-academic or work experience based on evaluation or assessment for conferring a certification equivalent to formal academic qualification to the grantee;
- (j) "Collaborative Skill based Education" means the skill blended education with essential provisions of component like on-job-training, internship, apprenticeship, real-time-work-experience, etc. at various industries and organizations along with educational programme;
- (k) "Community College" means a college of University for conducting refresher, awareness, capacity building, skilling courses, etc. for communities;
- (l) "Continuing Education" means the continuing education system of the University;
- (m) "Credit Transfer" means transfer of credits and part of scheduled duration of a programme based on the skills, competencies or qualification(s) possessed by the aspirant at the time of admission;
- (n) "Degree" means formal academic award (as enlisted in the list of specified degrees under Section 22 of UGC Act, 1956) attesting accomplishment of prescribed University norms by the grantee;
- (o) "Development Fund", "Endowment Fund" and "General Fund", means the development fund, endowment fund and general fund of the University, respectively;
- (p) "Diploma" means formal competency award attesting accomplishment of prescribed University norms by the grantee;
- (q) "Distance Education" means the distance education system of the University;
- (r) "Empanelled Training Associate" means associate of the University to arrange and/or conduct internship, apprenticeship, on job training, technical training, etc. for the students of University;

- (s) "Employee" means an employee appointed by the University which includes teachers and other staff of the University;
- (t) "Exchange Education" means the exchange education system of the University with other Universities, Organizations, Institutions or Industries for mutual recognition of educational or skill credits for purpose of accumulation and transfer of already earned credits into the programme offered by the University or *vice-versa*;
- (u) "External Student" means a student of University admitted only for the purpose of assessments or examinations for the award of degree, diploma, charter or certificate and exempted from pursuing the prescribed course of study;
- (v) "Faculty" means a division within the University comprising to handle single domain activities or several related domains or subject areas. Each Faculty is headed by a Dean or Director or Principal;
- (w) "Faculty Members" means Professor(s), Professor-of-practice(s), Associate Professor(s), Assistant Professor(s), Lecturer(s) etc. or such other person as may be appointed for imparting instructions, skills or conducting research under a faculty;
- (x) "*Honoris Causa*" means an honorary non-academic degree, generally a Doctor of Literature or Doctor of Science degree, for the sake of the honour, for which the University has waived the usual requirements of programme and may be awarded to a person of eminence as a way of honoring their contributions to a specific field or to society in general;
- (y) "Information Centre" means a centre for providing information and guidance about the University and its courses to the students, parents, etc.;
- (z) "Lateral Entry" means exemption of credits and part of scheduled duration of a programme on the basis of previous qualification wherein, the previous programme title is different from the applied programme;
- (aa) "NAPS" means National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme as notified by Government of India;
- (bb) "NCVET" means National Council for Vocational Education and Training established by Government of India;
- (cc) "NEP", "NSQF", "NVEQF" and "NHEQF" means New Education Policy, 2020, National Skill Qualification Framework, National Vocational Education Qualification Framework and National Higher Education Qualification Framework as notified by Government of India, respectively;
- (dd) "Online Education" means online education system of the University for the students, faculty members and others;

- (ee) "Optional Early Exit" means an optional certificate on the basis of early exit after partial completion of the programme;
- (ff) "Other Officers", "Authorities", "Standing Committees" and "Ad-Hoc Committees" means the other officers, authorities, standing committees and ad-hoc committees as constituted under the proviso of the Act;
- (gg) "Prescribed" means prescribed statutes and regulations made under this Act;
- (hh) "Regular Education" means the regular education system of the University;
- (ii) "Research Centre" means a centre recognized by the University for conducting research programme and developmental activities for research scholars, students, faculty members and others;
- (jj) "Regulations" means the regulations of the University;
- (kk) "School" means a school of studies within the University comprising to handle similar domain subject areas to facilitate more than one department or faculty of the University. School may be headed by Director or Principal;
- (ll) "SSC" means the Sector Skill Council recognized by the National Skill Development Corporation;
- (mm) "Skill Based Credit Transfer" means transfer of credits and exemption in duration of programme on the basis of skills or work experience, which are held equivalent to the educational achievements by the University;
- (nn) "SKP" means skill knowledge provider recognized by the University for imparting skill trainings to students;
- (oo) "Sponsorer" means the World Education Mission, a non-profit wholly charitable trust registered with Government of NCT, New Delhi or any other designated non-profit organization by World Education Mission;
- (pp) "Staff" means the teaching and non-teaching staff of the University;
- (qq) "State" means the State of Sikkim;
- (rr) "Statutes", "Student" and "Study Centre" means the statutes, student and study centre of the University, respectively;
- (ss) "(s)" {suffix (s)} means single or multiple or form possessive of plural, which may refer to singular or plural as per the requirement by the University;
- (tt) "UGC" means the University Grants Commission established under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956;
- (uu) "University" means the EdTech Skills University, established under this Act; and

- (vv) "Vocational Education" means vocational education for preparing trainee(s) for specific jobs that are based on manual or practical activities, traditionally non-academic and related to a specific trade, occupation or vocation.

CHAPTER – II THE UNIVERSITY

Establishment of University

- (1) "EdTech Skills University" shall be a self-sponsored multi-campus state skills University in the State of Sikkim with the sponsorship of World Education Mission.
- (2) The University shall be a body corporate, having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to hold property or to acquire by lease and to enter into contract.
- (3) The University may have off campuses and study centre as per the guidelines of State and Central Government for the time being in force.

University open to all classes, caste, creed, regions, religion and gender

4. The University shall be open to all irrespective of class, caste, creed, region, religion or gender:

Provided that nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the University from making special provisions for the students of Sikkim and students of weaker sections of society.

University shall be self-financing

5. (1) The University shall be self-financing. There shall be no financial obligations on the part of State Government for the University and *vice-versa*:

Provided that nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the University from obtaining grants, subsidies and loans, etc. for the functioning of University and augmenting the quality of education, skilling, training, research, etc. from Central or State Government, other organizations, banks etc.

CHAPTER – III OBJECTS AND POWERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Objects of the University

6. The objects for which the University is established shall be as follows, namely: -
 - (a) to perform necessary steps for ensuring 'antyodaya' to 'sarvodaya' for providing benefit of skilling and education to the last man in queue;
 - (b) to be a leading University for delivering excellence in quality skill education recognizable by the industries and other organizations at global level;
 - (c) to integrate educational resources with employment for the development of adequate human resource;

- (d) to develop community or village level clusters for the identification and development of best local trade practices of the local population at global level;
- (e) to develop the gateway for transportation of local goods from the remote locations to the main market and also to help in trading of those products made by local people;
- (f) to integrate the local tourist places with the national and international tourism circuits;
- (g) to encourage and promote uptake of skilling integrated with education in holistic manner for developing competent, skilled and capable youth imbibed with skills, learning and the spirit of entrepreneurship to meet the world-wide demand for job ready workforce;
- (h) to impart short-, medium- and long-term courses, helpful in addressing the migration problem of the State;
- (i) to provide opportunities for flexible learning, online learning, recognition of prior learning, competency-based modular courses and credit accumulation or transfer across educational streams for continuous learning;
- (j) to engage and collaborate with industries, institutions and organizations for empanelment as training associates for facilitating on-the-job-trainings, apprenticeships and job placements with the aim of providing workplace training and familiarization with global best practices;
- (k) to develop as a hub of skilling activities including – offering skills-based programme(s), fostering apprenticeships, on-the-job trainings and placements, counselling, conducting training of trainers and assessors, development of NSQF, NVEQF or NHEQF aligned curriculum etc.;
- (l) to institute degree(s), diploma(s), charter(s), certificate(s) or other academic distinction(s) on the basis of examination(s) or any other method of evaluation(s) which may also include accomplishment of any prescribed set of activity(s);
- (m) to implement and integrate NSQF, NVEQF or NHEQF at all levels with various programme(s) of University for facilitating propagation of semi-skilled and skilled human resources into academic programme;
- (n) to establish University-Industry Inter-Linkage Centre (UILC) for establishing industry-academia association at global level;
- (o) to impart regular, distance, online, external, collaborative skill-based education programme(s);
- (p) to design and offer specialized, continuing education, bridge, pre-university level skill programme etc. for the dropout candidates with or without formal education background, to enter into mainstream education or employment at global level;

- (q) to invest for objects of University or of the Sponsoring Body and if required sharing of the resources;
- (r) to encourage global need-based developmental programme and multi-disciplinary faculties focused upon rapid and efficient transfer of knowledge in the field of technical, vocational and professional education;
- (s) to promote feeling of patriotism amongst the students and faculty members;
- (t) to establish campuses, constituent colleges, community colleges, examination centre(s), skill development centre(s) and study centre(s) etc.;
- (u) to collaborate with other colleges, universities, research institutions, industry associations, professional associations or other organizations at global level to conceptualize, design and develop, specific educational programme, research programme, training programme, capacity building programme and exchange programme for students, faculty member and others;
- (v) to encourage livelihood and rehabilitation programme(s) for the candidates belonging to remote areas, underprivileged sections of society and *divyangjan*;
- (w) to pursue any other objects, as may be prescribed and to strive to fulfil the above objects by a diversified means of flexible, collaborative, industry-led, technology-enabled approach to education for scale, outreach, impact and sustainability; and
- (x) to adopt any other objects as may be approved by the Board of Governors.

Powers of the University

7. Subject to the provision of this Act, the University shall have the exercise the following powers and the following functions, namely: -
- (a) to provide for instructions, trainings, studies, knowledge, technology, skill and vocational competencies, professional expertise in the field of Agricultural Sciences, Animal Husbandry, Architecture, Arts, Ayush, Commerce, Dental, Designing, Education, Engineering, Fine Arts, Legal Studies, Library and Information Science, Management, Medical, Naturopathy, Nursing, Paramedical, Performing Arts, Pharmacy, Planning, Science, Skill Development, Social Science, Special Education, Sports, Technology, Veterinary Science, Vocational Studies, Yoga and other areas of studies, as the University may determine from time to time;
 - (b) to confer degree, diploma, charter, certificate and other academic distinctions on the basis of examination or any other method of evaluation or assessment, which may also include accomplishment of any prescribed set of activity(s);

- (c) to develop community or village level clusters for the identification and development of best local trade practices of the local population at global level;
- (d) to develop gateway for transportation of local goods from the remote locations to the main market;
- (e) to integrate the local tourism with the national and international tourism circuits;
- (f) to institute and award fellowship, *honoris causa*, scholarship, studentship, professorship, medals and prizes etc.;
- (g) to design and develop programme(s) structures, curricula, credit system, teaching methodology, evaluation, assessment, pedagogy, etc. at all levels of NSQF, NVEQF and NHEQF;
- (h) to conceptualize, design, develop and offer need based, job-oriented, industry driven NSQF, NVEQF and NHEQF aligned courses oneself or jointly with industries, sector skill councils or training institutions for students, trainees, faculty members and others to be delivered on-site in prospective employer premises or online for the better chances of employment post completion;
- (i) to confer continuing education certificate(s) or bridge course certificates or pre-university skills certificate(s) at all NSQF, NVEQF and NHEQF levels for facilitating dropouts, semi-skilled and skilled manpower to enter main stream of education;
- (j) to collaborate and promote constant industry engagement to understand the skilled manpower needs of specific industries and build partnerships for youth to learn in a practical and real-world environment;
- (k) to design industry-led innovative models with flexibility in training deliver and assessment mechanism via use of technology platforms, employer on-site location, on-the-job models covering the entire course credit requirements;
- (l) to facilitate recognition of prior learning (RPL) and accumulation of formal or informal or non-formal, academic or professional competencies into formal credits and transfer them into an academic programme;
- (m) to hold assessments for certification of knowledge and competency, or accredit the examination or assessment systems of other institutions, as the University may determine, from time to time;
- (n) to define norms of examination(s) or any other methods of assessment of knowledge and competencies of a student including modalities of industry-based assessments, industry-based projects, internships, on the job training and any related activities of students admitted to the University or institutions of skills education associated with it;

- (o) to lay down parameters for assessment and accreditation of skill educators and training providers in accordance with the norms specified by or under the NSQF or NVEQF or NHEQF or in their absence, such norms as may be determined by the University;
- (p) to recognize industries for purposes of skill-centric real-time training of students and to define norms for recognition of competencies attained by a student in such skill-centric practical training for the purpose of earning credits;
- (q) to identify, recognize, accredit or affiliate institutions of skill education in such manner and in accordance with such parameters as may be specified by Statutes;
- (r) to implement different models of embedded apprenticeships under National Apprentice Promotion Scheme to find the most scalable and sustainable solutions for on-job learning for learners in school or technical education and to integrate skill courses with practical training components;
- (s) to establish its own production units, entrepreneurship promotion centre, incubation centre, service centre or any other centre which shall provide practical training to enhance entrepreneurship skill level of youth;
- (t) to define norms and measures of assessment for recognition of prior learning and skill competencies, based on prior work experience in industry, and to design credits for such prior learning or skill competencies in accordance with the credit framework;
- (u) to impart skill education and also to function as training, assessment or awarding body for training, assessment and certification of skill trainings, capacity building courses including Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) as well as for trainers and assessor's certification courses being implemented by various Government, Non-Government agencies, sector skill councils, University empaneled training associates etc. at all levels of NSQF, NVEQF and NHEQF;
- (v) to receive gifts, grants, donations or other benefits of any kind to hold, manage, maintain, lease, mortgage or dispose-off such movable and immovable properties for the purpose of University from Government, Non-Government Organizations or individuals;
- (w) to borrow, whether on the security of the property of the University or otherwise, fund for the purpose of the University or Sponsoring Body;
- (x) to invest or contribute revenue or resources in the projects based upon objects of University or Sponsoring Body; and to share resources with Sponsoring Body for its utilization as per the objects of University or of the Sponsoring Body;

- (y) to offer regular, distance, online, external, continuing, collaborative skill-based, industry-integrated education and to define the manner in which such programme(s) are to be conducted by the University;
- (z) to create and abolish academic, administrative and other posts and to make appointments thereto;
- (aa) to co-operate, collaborate and/or enter Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with other universities, institutions, industrial associations, professional associations, etc. at global level in such a manner and for such purposes as the University may determine from time to time;
- (bb) to establish, maintain and recognize such regional centers, campuses, off-campus, internship campuses, examination centre(s) and study centers as may be determined by the University from time to time;
- (cc) to describe admission criteria and determine, demand and/or receive various types of fee(s) and such other charges to fulfill the objects of University;
- (dd) to make payment for fulfilling the cause mentioned in objects of the University;
- (ee) to invest, sponsor or contribute in projects that are considered necessary for fulfilling the "Objects of the University" or "Objects of the Sponsoring Body";
- (ff) to formulate the regulations for maintaining discipline amongst the students, employees and faculty members of the University and to define the penal actions for the violation of University Regulations;
- (gg) to lay down service rules for the employees of the University;
- (hh) to establish equivalency of various degree, diploma, charter, continuing education certificate, pre-university certificate, other academic distinction, examinations or period of study (whether in full or part) offered by other universities, institutions, organizations recognized by the University for this purpose with the similar level certifications offered by the University, and *vice-versa*;
- (ii) to create industry academia partnership by appointing industries to impart apprenticeship, internship, on-job trainings, etc. as an integral part of course curriculum for the students;
- (jj) to get recognition from the Government in the category of the industries for availing facilities meant for industries;
- (kk) to enter into, carry out, vary or cancel contracts;
- (ll) to create, amend and/or repeal the 'Statutes' and 'Regulations' to fulfill the objects of the University;

- (mm) to raise, collect, subscribe and/or borrow funds on the security of the University assets;
- (nn) to carry out all such activities as may be necessary or feasible in furtherance of the objects of the University; and
- (oo) to do all things necessary or expedient to exercise the above powers.

CHAPTER – IV

OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Officers of the University

- 8.** The following shall be the officers of the University, namely: -
- (a) the Chancellor;
 - (b) the Pro-Chancellor;
 - (c) the Vice-Chancellor;
 - (d) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor;
 - (e) the Registrar;
 - (f) the Dean of Faculty(s);
 - (g) the Director(s);
 - (h) the Finance Officer;
 - (i) the Controller of Examinations; and
 - (j) such other officers as may be declared by the Statutes to be officers of the University.

The Chancellor

- 9.**
- (1) A person of eminence shall be appointed by Sponsoring Body as the Chancellor of University for such a duration as Sponsoring Body may deem appropriate.
 - (2) The Chancellor shall be the head of the University.
 - (3) The Chancellor is authorized to appoint or remove any officer(s) of the University and/or to review, ratify, amend, repeal the decisions of university officer(s) or authority(s) and/or to call for information or record and/or to issue directions in University matters.
 - (4) The Chancellor shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.

The Pro-Chancellor

- 10.**
- (1) The Pro-Chancellor(s) shall be appointed by Sponsoring Body for such a duration as Sponsoring Body may deem appropriate.
 - (2) The Chancellor may delegate such authority to Pro-Chancellor(s) that he may deem fit for the smooth functioning of the University.
 - (3) The Pro-Chancellor(s) shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.

The Vice-Chancellor

11. (1) The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by Chancellor from a panel of three persons approved by the Board of Governors for such a duration, which Chancellor may deem appropriate.
- (2) The qualification of the Vice-Chancellor shall be strictly as per UGC norms.
- (3) The Vice-Chancellor shall be the academic head of the University and shall exercise general supervision and control over the University affairs and give effect to the decisions of the authorities of the University.
- (4) The Vice-Chancellor shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.

The Registrar

12. (1) The Registrar shall be appointed by the Chancellor in such manner and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed in Statutes for a period as may be prescribed by the Board of Governors from time to time.
- (2) All contracts, documents, records, etc. shall be maintained and authenticated by the Registrar on behalf of the University.
- (3) The Registrar shall be responsible for due custody of the records and the common seal of the University and shall produce the same before the Vice-Chancellor on demand or furnish the information to concerned on the directions of Vice-Chancellor excluding the sensitive and confidential information of the University.
- (4) The Registrar is accountable for maintaining the secrecy of records related to examinations, evaluation, examiners, results, question papers, award sheets, etc. and have special privilege to deny supply of information, which he may deem fit to any applicant, third party or even officer of University except Chancellor.
- (5) The Registrar shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor(s)

13. Pro-Vice-Chancellor(s) may be appointed by the Chancellor with intimation to the Board of Governors in such manner and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.

The Dean of Faculty(s)

14. (1) All the functional faculty(s) of the University shall be headed by a Dean.
- (2) Dean of Faculty(s) shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor amongst the Senior Professors of the faculty on rotational basis.
- (3) The Dean of Faculty shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.

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| The Director(s) | 15. | <p>(1) The Director(s) shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor for heading the specific area of operation, which may be relevant for University, faculty, school of studies, constituent college and/or department, etc.</p> <p>(2) The Director(s) shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.</p> |
| The Finance Officer | 16. | <p>(1) The Finance Officer shall be appointed by the Chancellor in such manner and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed in Statutes.</p> <p>(2) The Finance Officer shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.</p> |
| The Controller of Examinations | 17. | <p>(1) The Controller of Examinations shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor in such manner and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed in Statutes.</p> <p>(2) The Controller of Examinations shall have such powers as may be conferred on him by the Act, Statutes and Regulations.</p> |
| Other Officer(s) | 18. | The manner of appointment, terms and conditions of services and powers and duties of the other officers of the University shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes. |

CHAPTER – V

AUTHORITIES OF UNIVERSITY

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| Authorities of the University | 19. | <p>The following shall be the authorities of the University, namely:-</p> <p>(1) the Board of Governors;</p> <p>(2) the Academic Council;</p> <p>(3) the Finance Committee; and</p> <p>(4) such other authorities as may be prescribed by the Statutes to be the authorities of the University.</p> |
| The Board of Governors and its powers | 20. | <p>(1) The Board of Governors shall be the supreme authority and principal governing body of the University.</p> <p>(2) The Board of Governors shall consist of the following members:-</p> <p>(a) the Chancellor;</p> <p>(b) the Pro-Chancellor(s);</p> <p>(c) the Vice-Chancellor;</p> <p>(d) educationist of repute nominated by the Chancellor;</p> <p>(e) educationist of repute nominated by the State Government;</p> <p>(f) nominee(s) of Sponsor;</p> |

- (g) special Invitee(s) nominated by the Chancellor for specific purpose;
 - (h) the Registrar.
- (3) The Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of the Board of Governors.
 - (4) In the absence of Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor nominated by Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of Board of Governors.
 - (5) The Registrar shall be the ex-officio Member Secretary of the Board of Governors.
 - (6) The minimum quorum for the meeting of Board of Governors shall not be less than 5.
 - (7) In the absence of Registrar, one existing member nominated by the Chancellor shall temporarily work as Member Secretary of Board of Governors.
 - (8) The term of all the nominated members of Board of Governors shall be three years.
 - (9) The Board of Governors shall, normally meet once in a calendar year at such time and place or online or hybrid as the Chancellor may deem fit.
 - (10) The Board of Governors shall have the following powers and functions, namely:-
 - (a) to lay down policies to be pursued by the University;
 - (b) to create, amend and repeal Statutes and Regulations of the University;
 - (c) to review decisions of the other authorities of the University in conformity with the provisions of this Act, or the Statutes or the Regulations;
 - (d) to approve the budget and annual report of the University;
 - (e) to determine, demand and receive fee, bills, invoices and collect charges, etc.;
 - (f) to approve the operations of Endowment Fund, General Fund and Development Fund;
 - (g) to take decision about voluntary winding up of the University;
 - (h) to create, abolish and appoint academic, administrative, support staff and any other posts;
 - (i) to receive donation and gifts of any kind and to hold, manage, maintain, lease, mortgage and dispose of any movable or immovable property and endowment properties for University, with prior approval of the State Government;

- (j) to raise, collect, subscribe and borrow whether on the security of the property of the University, money for the purpose of the University with prior approval of the State Government;
- (k) to make payment for fulfilling the cause mentioned in the objects of the University;
- (l) to invest, sponsor or contribute in the projects that are considered necessary for fulfilling the objects of the University;
- (m) to make special provisions for candidates belonging to State rural areas, underprivileged sections of society and *divyangjan*;
- (n) to appoint the statutory auditors of the University;
- (o) to open, close, operate and manage accounts of the University;
- (p) to perform all such acts and enjoy powers as prescribed by the Statutes; and to take such decisions as are found desirable for effectively carrying out the objects of the University.

The Academic Council and its powers

21. (1) The Academic Council shall be the principal academic body of the University and shall, subject to the provisions of the Act, the Statutes and the Regulations coordinate and exercise general supervision over the academic policies of the University.
- (2) The Academic Council shall consist of the following Members:
- (a) the Vice-Chancellor – Chairman;
 - (b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor(s) – Member(s);
 - (c) nominated Dean(s) – Member(s);
 - (d) nominated Director(s) – Member(s);
 - (e) nominated Industry Expert(s) – Member(s);
 - (f) nominated Subject Expert(s) – Member(s);
 - (g) such other person(s) as prescribed in Statutes – Member(s);
 - (h) the Registrar – Secretary.
- (3) The powers and functions of Academic Council shall be such as, may be prescribed by the Statutes.
- (4) All the nominated members shall be appointed by Vice-Chancellor for such a term as may be prescribed in Statutes.

The Finance Committee and its powers

22. (1) The Finance Committee shall be the principal financial body of the University to take care of financial matters and shall, subject to the provision of Act, Statutes and Regulations, coordinate and exercise general supervision over the financial matters of the University.

- (2) The Finance Committee shall consist of the following members, namely:-
 - (a) the Vice-Chancellor – Chairman;
 - (b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor(s) – Member(s);
 - (c) nominated Director(s) – Member(s);
 - (d) the Finance Officer – Member;
 - (e) such other person(s) as prescribed in statutes – Member(s);
 - (f) the Registrar – Secretary.
- (3) The powers, functions and term of Finance Committee shall be such as, may be prescribed by the Statutes.
- (4) All the nominated member shall be appointed by Chancellor for such a term as may be prescribed in Statutes.

Other Authorities 23. The constitution, powers and functions of the other authorities of the University shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

Proceedings on the account of vacancy 24. No act or proceeding of any authority of the University shall be invalid merely by the reason of existence of any vacancy or defect in the constitution of the authority.

Coordination, Determination of Standards & Equivalency 25.

- (1) Coordination and Determination of Standards by the University shall be covered within the meaning of section 2(f) of University Grants Commission Act, 1956.
- (2) The University shall seek recognition from Central Government, wherever it will be required by the law.
- (3) The University shall be empowered to impart formal education, skill education, vocational education and also to function as training, assessment or awarding body for training, assessment and certification of skill trainings, capacity building courses including recognition of prior learning as well as for trainers and assessor's certification courses being implemented by various Government, Non-Government agencies, sector skill councils, empaneled training associates, etc. at all levels of NSQF, NVEQF and NHEQF.
- (4) The skill education charter(s), diploma, vocational certificates, degrees and other academic distinctions awarded by the University in any of the mode will automatically stand applicable for the post and services of State, other states, Union Territories and Central Government vacancies of corresponding level.
- (5) The skill education charter(s), diploma, vocational certificates, degrees and other academic distinctions awarded by the University in any of the mode will automatically stand applicable for pursuing further studies from other recognized Institutions and Universities across the nation.

- (6) The University shall be empowered to accredit centre(s), office(s), school(s), internship campus(s), community education center(s), institution(s), examination centre(s), information centre(s), study centre(s) and village skilling centre(s) etc. anywhere in India and abroad.
- (7) The University may prescribe, conduct and certify skill development courses as per NSQF and NVEQF, which includes long-, medium- and short-term non-degree courses, apprenticeship training and recognition of prior learning, equivalent to formal and vocational education course independent of All India Council for Technical Education Act, and the University Grants Commission Act, or by any other law for time being in force.
- (8) The University shall be eligible to avail facilities from the State and Central Government which are meant for industries.

CHAPTER – VI

STATUTES & REGULATIONS

Statutes

26. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Statutes may be prescribed for all or any matters relating to the University and the staff, as given below:-
 - (a) the constitution, powers and functions of the authorities and other bodies of the University as specified in the Act and such other authorities as may be constituted from time to time;
 - (b) the mode of recruitment, power, functions and terms and conditions of the service for teaching, non-teaching, other employees and other officers of the University;
 - (c) procedure for creation and abolition of posts;
 - (d) the procedure for resolving dispute between the University and its officers, faculty members, employees and students;
 - (e) creation, abolition or restructuring of department(s), school(s) and faculty(s);
 - (f) the manner of cooperation with other universities, institutions, industries, organizations, etc.;
 - (g) the registration of empaneled training associates, learning centre(s), industries and organizations for providing skill development, training, learning support;
 - (h) the operation of the various funds of the University;
 - (i) number of seats in different courses, fee heads, fee to be charged and the procedure of admission to such courses;

- (j) procedure for conferring degree, diploma, charter, certificates, continuing education bridge course certificate, other academic distinction, *honoris causa*, honorary awards, professorships, fellowship(s), scholarship(s), studentship(s), free-ship(s), medal(s) and prize(s), etc.;
 - (k) procedure for disciplinary action against students or employees; and
 - (l) all other matters which board of governors may deem necessary to prescribe under the Statutes.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the procedure for making the Statutes shall be as given below:-
- (a) The Statutes framed by the Board of Governors shall be submitted to the State Government for its approval, which may, within two months from the date of receipt of the Statutes give its approval with or without modifications.
 - (b) Where the State Government fails to take any decision with respect to the approval of the Statutes within the specified period of two months, it shall be deemed to have been approved by State Government.
 - (c) The State Government may publish the approved Statutes in the Official Gazette within three months from its approval as specified under sub-section (a) or sub-section (b).
- (3) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the procedure for amendment, repeal of Statutes shall be as given below:-
- (a) The amended statutes, repealed statutes, new statutes approved by the Board of Governor shall be submitted to the State Government for its approval, which may, within two months from the date of receipt give its approval with or without modifications.
 - (b) Where the State Government fails to take any decision with respect to the approval of amendment, repeal or addition of new statutes within two months, it shall be deemed to have been approved by State Government.
 - (c) The State Government may publish the approved Statutes in the Official Gazette within three months from its approval as specified under sub-section (a) or sub-section (b).

Regulations

27. (1) Subject to provision of this Act the Regulations may be prescribed for all or any of the following matters, namely:-
- (a) procedures for admission, enrolment and continuation of students into the University;

- (b) procedures for laying down the courses of study for degree, diploma, charter, continuing education bridge course and other academic distinctions, etc. of the University;
 - (c) procedures for laying down the Regulations for conducting skill development, entrepreneurship development and capacity building courses;
 - (d) procedures for laying down the Regulations for implementing NSQF, NVEQF and NHEQF into various course of studies;
 - (e) procedures for adopting CBCS, CFSD, credit accumulation and transfers into various courses;
 - (f) procedures for conducting examinations and the conditions and mode of appointment and duties of examining bodies, examiners, invigilators, tabulators and moderators;
 - (g) procedure for prescribing fee structure in various heads and revision of fee;
 - (h) procedures for providing residence facility to faculty, student and others in the University premises;
 - (i) procedures for maintaining discipline in the University;
 - (j) conditions for services of the employees of the University; and
 - (k) all other matters as may be provided in the Statutes and Regulations under the Act.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the procedure for making the Regulations shall be as given below:-
- (a) the Regulations framed by the Board of Governors shall be submitted to the State Government for its approval, which may, within two months from the date of receipt of the Regulations give its approval, with or without modifications;
 - (b) where the State Government fails to take any decision with respect to the approval of the Regulations within the specified period of two months, it shall be deemed to have been approved by State Government;
 - (c) the State Government may publish the approved Regulations in the Official Gazette within 3 (three) months from its approval as specified under sub-section (a) or sub-section (b).
- (3) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the procedure for amendment, repeal of Regulations shall be as given below:-
- (a) the amended regulations, repealed regulations, new regulations approved by the Board of Governor shall be submitted to the State Government for its approval,

which may, within two months from the date of receipt give its approval with or without modifications;

- (b) where the State Government fails to take any decision with respect to the approval of amendment, repeal or addition of new regulations within two months, it shall be deemed to have been approved by State Government;
- (c) The State Government may publish the approved Regulations in the Official Gazette within 3 (three) months from its approval as specified under sub-section (a) or sub-section (b).

CHAPTER – VII

MISCELLANEOUS

Constitution of Committees	28.	The authorities of the University shall be empowered to constitute a committee of such authority, consisting of such members and having such powers as the authority may deem fit.
Casual Vacancies	29.	The Vice-Chancellor is authorized to fill up casual vacancies under intimation to Board of Governors. The causal vacancies are co-terminus with the purpose.
Protection of action taken in good faith	30.	No suit or other legal proceedings shall lie against any officer or other employee of the University for anything, which is done in good faith or intended to be done in pursuance of the provision of the Act, Statutes and Regulations.
Transitional Provisions	31.	Notwithstanding anything contained in other provisions of this Act and the Statutes: - (1) The first Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor in consultation with Sponsoring Body, subject to the condition that appointee satisfies the minimum eligibility criteria as prescribed by UGC for the appointment on the post of Vice-Chancellor. (2) The first Pro-Vice-Chancellor, first Registrar and the first Finance Officer shall be appointed by the Chancellor in consultation with Sponsoring Body. (3) In all emergent and transitional situations, the Chancellor is authorized to appoint suitable candidates on all University posts. All such appointments by the Chancellor shall be reported to Board of Governors in the earliest possible opportunity.
Endowment Fund	32.	(1) The Sponsoring Body shall establish an Endowment Fund for the University with an amount of ₹ One Crore in the form of fixed deposit.

- (2) The incomes from Endowment Fund shall only be utilized for infrastructural development of the University and shall not utilize to meet out the recurring expenditure of the University.
- General Fund and Development Fund** 33. (1) The University shall establish a General Fund and Development Fund from the receipts of fee charged in various heads, amounts received from other sources including Sponsoring Body, contributions, donations by individuals or body incorporate or alumni's, etc.
- (2) The General Fund shall be normally maintained for meeting the recurring expenditure of the University.
- (3) The Development Fund shall be normally maintained for meeting the requirements of developmental activities of the University.
- (4) The maintenance of General Fund and Development Fund shall be subject to general supervision and control of the Finance Committee in such a manner as may be prescribed in the Statutes.
- Annual Account, Balance Sheet and Annual Report** 34. (1) The annual accounts and balance sheet of the University shall be prepared under the direction of the Finance Officer and all funds accruing to or received by the University from whatever source and all amount disbursed or paid shall be entered in the accounts maintained by the University.
- (2) The annual accounts of the University shall be audited by a Chartered Accountant.
- (3) The annual report of the University shall be prepared under the direction of Vice-Chancellor and shall be submitted to the Board of Governors for its approval.
- (4) The Board of Governors shall consider the annual report in its meeting and may approve the same with or without modifications.
- Mode of proof of University record** 35. The Registrar shall be the custodian of all University documents and records. A copy of any receipt, application, notice, order, proceeding, resolution of any authority or committee, other documents in possession of University, any entry in any register maintained by the University, if certified by the Registrar, shall be received as *prima facie* evidence of such receipt, application, notice, order, proceeding, resolution, document, the existence of entry in the register shall be admitted as evidence of the matters and transaction therein recorded, where the original thereof would, if produced, have been admissible as evidence.
- Power of Sponsoring Body** 36. (1) The Sponsoring Body may propose dissolution of University to the State Government and by giving at least 12 months' notice in writing and shall ensure that no new admissions to

the University are accepted during the notice period. All financial obligations, whatsoever may be, for dissolution of the University shall lie with the University.

- (2) In case of dissolution of University all the assets and belongings of the University shall subsumed in the Sponsoring Body.
- (3) The Sponsoring Body may appoint a new sponsor or co-sponsor of the University for smooth continuance of the operations of the University with intimation to State Government.
- (4) The Sponsoring Body may by resolution remove Chancellor of the University.
- (5) The Sponsoring Body may direct the University about funds other than Endowment Fund to be invested or spent for furthering the objects of the University or of Sponsoring Body or any other social purpose.

Amendment(s)

37. Where the State Government or Sponsoring Body feels necessity of amending any section(s) of the Act, the same can be done only by way of mutual agreement:

Provided that all such amendments under sub-section (1) shall be made only after the approval of State Legislature.

Dissolution of University

38. (1) On establishment of mismanagement, mal-administration, indiscipline, failure in the accomplishment of the objects of University or economic hardships in the management system of University, the State Government in consultation with Sponsoring Body may issue necessary directions to the management of University.
- (2) In case the directions are not followed within twelve months, the State Government may issue show cause notice to the University for dissolution of the University.
- (3) The manner of dissolution of the University would be such as may be mutually decided by the State Government and Sponsoring Body that until the last batch of students in courses of studies of the University complete their courses.
- (4) On the dissolution of the University, all the assets of the University shall vest in the Sponsoring Body.
- (5) After finalization of process of dissolution either by Sponsoring Body or mutually by State Government and Sponsoring Body, the State Government will place the matter before the Legislative Assembly. This shall come into force on such date as the State Government may by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

**Expenditure of
University during
dissolution**

39. (1) The expenditure for administration of the University during the dissolution of the University shall be met out of the permanent Endowment Fund of the University, if required.
- (2) If the funds referred to in sub-section (1) are not sufficient to meet the expenditure of the University during the dissolution of the University, such expenditure may be met by the Endowment Fund or disposing of the properties or assets of the University by the Sponsoring Body.

**Removal of
Difficulties**

40. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the State Government may, by a notification or order, make such provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as appear to it to be necessary or expedient, for removing the difficulty:
- Provided that no notification order under sub-section (1) shall be made after the expiration of a period of two years from the commencement of this Act.
- (2) Every order made under sub-section (1) shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be laid before the State Legislature.

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